MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 18 AND 19, 1934.

The eighth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1934, was held in its office in the Navy Department Building on Thursday, January 18 and Friday, January 19. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Clarke,
Mr. Lawrie,
Mr. Howells,
Mr. Savage,
also Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,

Executive Secretary and Administrative Officer.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS: The Minutes of the Meetings held November 17 and 18 and December 15, 1933, were approved.

2. CHANGE IN ROSTRUM, ARLINGTON AMPHITHEATRE: Major General J. L. DeWitt, U. S. A., submitted a letter, dated January 10, 1934, suggesting a change in the chair of the rostrum of the Arlington Amphitheatre, as follows:

The Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Navy Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Attention is invited to the enclosed copy of letter of January 8, 1934, which is self-explanatory.

It will be appreciated if the Commission of Fine Arts will give this matter consideration and advise this office of its recommendations concerning the proposed alteration of the chair in question.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) J. L. DeWitt,
Major General,
The Quartermaster General.

January 8, 1934.

Subject: Presidential Chair, Memorial Amphitheatre, Arlington National Cemetery.

To: The Quartermaster General,
Munitions Building,
Washington, D. C.

1. Attention is invited to the proportions of the presidential chair in the rostrum of the Arlington Amphitheatre as indicated on the accompanying photograph.

2. The figure in the chair is seated as far back as practicable. It will be noted that the feet (size 9B) project beyond the top step of the dais.

3. When the President rises up from this seat with his mind on his address he could easily fall off of this top step.

4. It will also be noted that the back of the figure is a considerable distance in front of the marble back rest.

5. These conditions can be corrected without materially altering the design of the chair, at an expense of not exceeding $150.00.

6. Funds are available.

7. Instructions are requested.

For the Constructing Quartermaster:

Robert S. Beard,
Captain, Q. M. C.,
Assistant.

The matter was brought to the attention of Mr. Howells and Mr. Lawrie. The Commission visited the Arlington Amphitheatre on Friday afternoon to inspect the chair. As a result of this inspection the conclusion was reached that either a new larger slab should be secured to be placed immediately under the chair or that a short slab should be attached to the existing stone. Mr. Howells drew a sketch embodying the suggestions of the Commission and a report was sent to the Quartermaster General accordingly. (Exhibit A)

3. PLANS FOR NEW EXPERIMENTAL FARM, BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND: Mr. A. D. Taylor, Consulting Landscape Architect, and Mr. Delos Smith, Consulting Architect, submitted to the Commission designs for one of the units of the Agriculture Department experiment station at Beltsville, to comprise from 5,000 to 6,000 acres.

Mr. Taylor said the situation at Beltsville is peculiar in the respect that there are 1,400 C. W. A. workers and others under the Public Works Program who are now available for use and certain things had to be settled quickly so that these men could be used efficiently. Two things were determined: The location of the important buildings and of certain roads. Mr. Taylor pointed out the location on the air map of certain buildings. He showed how the roads as they are now planned follow the topography. The Commission was gratified with the change in the lay-out of the roads. With reference to the road which has already been cut through, leaving ugly looking gashes, Mr. Clarke asked Mr. Taylor if planting could be put in those gashes so that some day they will be covered.

The Washington-Baltimore Parkway adjacent to the grounds is being laid out in cooperation with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The parkway is to follow the brook and an extension of three-quarters of a mile in order to follow this stream was considered a minor matter by the Commission. The county road running through the grounds will be kept as a subordinate road.

Mr. Taylor explained the general scheme of the buildings, which includes the restoration of what is left of an old mansion of colonial times for a summer residence of the Secretary of Agriculture (now occupied by the Super-

intendent of the farm.) Also a house is proposed for the summer residence of the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. A number of residences for the scientists and employees and a community center are planned. The experimental farm will have a special group of buildings for cattle, hogs, poultry, and bees. The adjacent dairy farm will remain but effort will be made to improve its appearance so as to bring it into proper relation with the experimental farm.

Mr. Smith submitted a design for the laboratory building to cost $390,000; it is to be built as the first of the major units of a quadrangle. It was designed in the Georgian style of architecture, thus conforming to the style of the interesting historical brick buildings in this part of the country. Furthermore, it is to establish the style of architecture for the buildings of the farm. The design was brought to the attention of Mr. Howells. Mr. Smith explained that the building will face south but there is no central portico as it is proposed to have the refrigerator at the center of the building, leaving the wings for laboratory uses. Mr. Smith said he wished to keep the front of the building quiet and free from traffic for it is to be a cloister of the "monks of science". The entrances will be at the ends of these wings. Mr. Howells thought the building well designed and upon his recommendation the Commission approved it.

Mr. Smith said his contract with the Department of Agriculture expires February 15, and after that there is danger that the buildings and grounds will not be developed under proper supervision so far as the general scheme is concerned. The Commission decided that in reporting as to the plans they would suggest to the Secretary of Agriculture that the services of the

consulting landscape architect and of the consulting architect be retained until the experimental farm is properly developed. A report was sent to the Secretary of Agriculture. (Exhibit B; see also B-1)

4. PAN AMERICAN ANNEX: The Commission were in consultation with Dr. Paul Cret, architect of the Pan American Annex, regarding the location of the proposed building on the triangle at Constitution Avenue and 19th Street. Mr. Moore said now that 19th Street has been widened and $75,000 have been appropriated for the landscape development of the grounds of the adjacent Public Health Service, he was of the opinion that the Annex as originally designed by Dr. Cret would not particularly fit into the triangle. The Secretary showed the Commission a blue print indicating the location of all the buildings on Constitution Avenue west of 17th Street. This was inspected.

After consideration Mr. Clarke was of the opinion that a triangular building designed to fit the location should be built and furthermore if the building were designed with a facade not only on Constitution Avenue but also on Virginia Avenue, it would be a much better looking building.

Dr. Cret said that this would be impracticable for several reasons: The Annex as planned provides for an extension at a future date; it is proposed to have a service entrance on the Virginia Avenue side: Dr. Cret felt a three-quarter wall on the east side would give a better appearance than having the building come to a point at the east end. The Commission nevertheless felt that Dr. Cret had not designed a fine looking building and that he should give the matter further study. Also the Commission suggested that Dr. Cret prepare a plan for a future extension of the Pan American group to take in the triangle on the north side of Virginia Avenue. Dr. Cret said he had no authority to do this and doubted if money could be obtained to carry out such a scheme. How-

ever, the Commission felt it very important that the plan be prepared now as the additional ground would certainly be needed by the Pan American Union in future years. The Commission decided to bring the matter to the attention of Dr. Rowe. (Exhibit C)

5. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SCULPTURE: Mr. C. Paul Jennewein submitted photographs of models for the Department of Justice Building with letter of January 15, as follows:

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

I am enclosing three photographs of sketches of proposed sculpture for the Department of Justice Building, which I wish to present for the consideration of the Art Commission.

If at any time they wish to see these models at my studio they are now ready for inspection.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) C. P. Jennewein.

The photographs were brought to the attention of Mr. Lawrie, who inspected them. Mr. Lawrie thought the models well designed and upon his recommendation the Commission approved them. (Exhibit D)

6. BRIDGES FOR GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK: The Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations submitted designs for two bridges to be built in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, with a letter of January 19, 1934, as follows:

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary, The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

For your records, the drawings we made for the consideration of the Commission of Fine Arts yesterday are described as follows:

G. S. 1018, Site No. 2, Single Elliptical Arch.
G. S. 1065, Site No. 3, Double Masonry Arch.

Both of these bridges will be located on the Tennessee Section of the Newfound Gap Highway in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Charles E. Peterson.
Chief of Division.

The designs were inspected by the Commission. Mr. Clarke, Mr. Howells and Mr. Lawrie had several suggestions to make in matters of detail, which were embodied in the drawings and upon resubmission the designs were approved by the Commission. (Exhibit E)

7. BUILDINGS FOR THE SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK: Upon the recommendation of Mr. Clarke the Commission approved the designs for a series of buildings (hosts' houses) to be erected in the Shenardoah National Park. (Exhibit F)

8. FIELD HOUSE, MCMILLAN PARK: Under date of January 16, 1934, the following letter was received from Major J. D. Arthur, District Engineer, U. S. Engineers Office, with a plan for a field house to be erected in McMillan Park:

The Commission of Fine Arts,
Navy Building,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

At the request of the Department of Playgrounds, D. C., there are submitted plans for the proposed field house for the Bloomingdale Playground located in McMillan Park. The Department of Playgrounds makes an urgent appeal for the expedition of your action since it is desirous of starting and completing construction while employees assigned under the Civil Works Administration are available.

For your further information this office incloses a print of McMillan Park, D. C., showing the proposed location of the playground, field house, and other physical features of the park.

For a number of years the Bloomingdale playground occupied an area below the dam along Bryant Street. In 1930, Congress authorized the construction of the D. C. Highway Department Garage on a portion of the playground and so reduced its area that the Commissioners requested additional land on top of the dam and adjacent to the McMillan Memorial Fountain. The whole area desired for the playground is shown hatched in yellow on the print inclosed.

Work has already commenced on the construction of the playground, but to date has consisted of some grading, laying drains, and digging and concreting post holes with cups or sockets for the fence which is to surround the entire area. The Supervisor of Playgrounds, Miss Sibyl Baker, has promised further plans for a wading pool, equipment, fences, etc. in a few days and these will be submitted to you for action.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) J. D. Arthur, Jr.,
Major, Corps of Engineers,
District Engineer.

Mr. Clarke inspected the design and thought it very poor. The design accordingly was disapproved by the Commission. Also the Commission objected to having a fence around a playground in this park and so near to the McMillan Fountain, one of the best in the United States. A report was sent to the District Engineer. (Exhibit G)

9. GREAT PLAZA OF THE TRIANGLE: The Commission were in conference with the Board of Architectural Consultants of the Treasury Department and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in Room 297 of the Treasury Department Building on Thursday afternoon to consider a revised plan for the development of the Great Plaza in the Triangle south of Pennsylvania Avenue. Representing the Board of Architectural Consultants, there were present Mr. Bennett, Mr. Pope, Mr. Ayres, Mr. Zantzinger, Mr. Brown and Mr. Simon.

Mr. Delano of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission was selected as Chairman of the meeting. Of the out of town members of the

National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Professor Hubbard of Boston and Mr. Nichols of Kansas City were present.

Mr. Bennett presented a modified plan for the Great Plaza. He said the Plaza measures 550 by 850 feet and that the revised plan (A) has been designed to omit the pool in the center, for which a panel of grass has been substituted. The Plaza will be lined with trees and walks sloping down to a depression of five feet. There will be a balustrade along the grass panel. Mr. Bennett said the plan has been thoroughly considered by the Board of Architectural Consultants and they have approved Plan A, excepting in the matter of elimination of the pool in the center, which was to be decided upon at this meeting.

After careful consideration by all present, design A was generally approved with the understanding that a grass panel would be substituted for the pool and that the balustrade would be built now. Mr. Bennett was asked as to the status of the drawings and he said they are about 85 per cent complete.

Later in the afternoon, Mr. L. W. Robert, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, appeared at the meeting and asked what the cost is to be of carrying out the Great Plaza plan. Mr. Bennett replied that it would be about $750,000, less the difference between the cost of constructing the pool and the grass panel. Mr. Robert said he wishes to have the Triangle completed and hoped the work of carrying out the plan of the Great Plaza could be completed without further delay.

10. APEX BUILDING: The question of erecting the Apex Building at the east end of the Triangle was considered at the joint meeting. Mr. Pope

explained the importance of erecting the building at this location because of its setting in relation to the Archives and Department of Justice Buildings. The Apex and Department of Justice Buildings form a frame for the Archives Building in that the Archives Building is set back from the building line of the other two buildings facing Constitution Avenue. Mr. Pope was strongly of the opinion that to omit the Apex Building would seriously impair the appearance of the Archives Building, which has been designed to face south towards the Mall.

The Secretary stated that recently the Federal Trade Commissioners had called on Mr. Moore and emphasized their need of a new building and of their desire to be located in the Apex Building. The Federal Trade Commission and employees number 400 and they are housed in an old temporary building at 20th and Constitution Avenue. The clerical force is increasing constantly due to the fact that Congress has placed the administration of the Bond-Securities Act under the Federal Trade Commission.

After consideration it was decided unanimously that the Apex Building should be built; also that Mr. Bennett should give thorough study to the question of space allotment in the building. It was felt that possibly the Federal Trade Commission would take up the entire building. Other Bureaus and establishments tentatively assigned for the building are the Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the employees of the former Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, now a part of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations. The Commission of Fine Arts sent a report to the President of the United States, recommending the construction of the Apex Building. (Exhibit H)

11. CROSS AXIS OF THE MALL AT SEVENTH STREET: A sketch for the Cross Axis of the Mall at Seventh Street, received from Bennett, Parsons and Frost, of Chicago, was considered at the meeting. It was pointed out that this plan had been designed to conform to the cross axis in the plan of 1901 for this area. Mr. Pope said the plan fits the south front of the Archives Building, which will face the cross axis. The plan was thereupon agreed to. It was noted that the spacing of trees in this area will differ slightly from the tree spacing in the rest of the Mall, so as to provide a through vista for the Archives Building.

12. FEDERAL WAREHOUSE: At the joint meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts on Friday morning, January 19, Mr. Louis Simon submitted in behalf of the Supervising Architects Office a design for enlarging the Federal Warehouse so as to extend it eastward to 7th and D Streets, S. W. One-half of the building has been built. Mr. Simon said it is proposed to house the Supervising Architects Office in the top floor of the building. The plan contemplated a building two stories higher than the existing half of the building and extending northward into Virginia Avenue; also it is proposed to construct a large penthouse on top of the building. After careful consideration it was decided:

(1) That the addition to the building be substantially symmetrical with the existing building as to plan and elevation about the axis of 8th Street;

(2) That the addition to the building shall not extend beyond the line of Virginia Avenue or of any other street as originally laid out and as shown on the plan for the City of Washington;

(3) That the pent-houses shall be no higher and no larger than those of the existing building and shall be set back from the facade of the building by a distance equal to their height.

A joint report from the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts was sent to the Secretary of the Treasury. (Exhibit I)

13. GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING: Mr. Louis Simon submitted drawings in behalf of the Supervising Architects Office, prepared by Mr. J. H. deSibour for the remodeling of the General Accounting Office, the old Pension Office Building in Judiciary Square at 5th and G Streets, N. W. Mr. deSibour submitted the following letter:

January 17, 1934.

Mr. Charles Moore,
Chairman, Fine Arts Commission,
1719 H Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Moore:

Revised sketches will be submitted to your Committee by the Treasury Department for approval for the alterations and additions to the General Accounting Office.

This project has been presented to the President, Comptroller General McCarl, the Treasury Department and the Public Works Administration and a contract has been entered into with me for the preparation of cabinet sketches in three stages, preliminary, revised and cabinet.

The sketches you have are the revised sketches and have been approved by the Treasury Department.

The cabinet sketches will be prepared later, when I receive criticism from your Committee and also the allocation of space, which is now being laid out by the General Accounting Office.

I remain,

Very respectfully yours,
J. H. de Sibour, Architect.

The plans were inspected with much interest and were commended as having accomplished an excellent result in transforming the ugly looking Pension

Office into a graceful building. Mr.deSibour gave the building classical motives and enlarged the building on the east and west ends. It was noted the wings would encroach on F Street when that street is widened. It was, therefore, decided that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission should prepare a plan for F Street as it will extend through Judiciary Square and present it to Mr. deSibour before he makes further studies. Also it was understood that in doing this Mr. deSibour would restudy the south facade.

The Commission visited the Pension Office Building later in the afternoon. A report was sent to Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Robert, commending the plan. (Exhibit J)

14. NEW CHAIN BRIDGE: The Commission considered the question of a New Chain Bridge. Mr. Nolen, Director of Planning, reported that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission had decided to locate the bridge at Little Falls near the District line and that the new bridge should be a high level bridge and that as soon as some further engineering studies have been completed the Commission of Fine Arts should advise as to the design of the bridge. The Commission concurred in the location of the bridge and it was generally agreed that it should be a high level bridge.

15. WIDENING F STREET BETWEEN SEVENTH AND NINTH STREETS, N. W.: The Commission considered the question of widening F Street between Seventh and Ninth Streets, N. W., involving a restudy of the south entrance of the building. The Secretary presented a photograph showing that by taking off the steps on the south side of the building the street could be widened at least 30 feet. It was agreed that a study should be made so as to give the south side of the building a treatment similar to that on the north side where one enters the building from the street.

16. COLUMBIA ISLAND PLAN: The following letter was received from Mr. Wm. Mitchell Kendall, representing the firm of McKim, Mead and White, architects of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, on the subject of the development of Columbia Island Plaza, which received consideration:

December 26, 1933.

Mr. Charles Moore,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Department of Interior Building,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Moore:

I am distressed that we do not get ahead with the Columbia Island Plaza. When the last scheme was presented to the Commission, a year or thereabouts ago, it was received with a good deal of favor, but in spite of that, it has never been approved. I refer to the scheme with the two semi-circular colonnades. As I said in my previous letter, I have talked with Mr. Swartwout and Mr. Clarke, but they do not seem to agree. Mr. Swartwout felt that the circles containing the fountains should be a good deal further apart than they are. Mr. Clarke on the contrary, sketched out roughly an area of grass, 100 or 200 feet long, running north and south, requiring a detour of considerable extent. He also did not favor the idea of having any architectural demonstration in the center at all. Swartwout thought there should be. I cannot conceive of the crossing of the two great axes not being recognized architecturally in the strongest possible manner. I have, in answer to your request, made a new drawing of the Plaza, putting the fountains in accordance with Mr. Swartwout's opinion, 400 feet apart instead of 300 feet. I do not think it is at all necessary, neither do I see that there is much harm done. The one thing that I was very glad to do, was your suggestion that the Plaza should have a more definite and stronger form. I never liked the spiral lines in the plan that I had submitted, but gave way to those on the Commission who seemed so much more interested in the traffic than in the shape of the Plaza. I enclose a print of a preliminary drawing showing in a general way what I thought would be an improvement in the shape of the Plaza. As far as traffic is concerned, of course, whatever curved lines are necessary, could be inserted as part of the pavement, as elsewhere.

I enclose copy of a letter written to Mr. Arno B. Cammerer on November 22, 1933, which he has never had the courtesy to reply to.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) Wm. Mitchell Kendall.

The Secretary presented the sketch received from Mr. Kendall. Professor Hubbard and Mr. Clarke noted that the sketch submitted by Mr. Kendall was the same one he had made fully a year ago, showing a semi-circular colonnade at the north and south sides of the plaza. Mr. Clarke said the committee appointed to advise as to the design of the plaza was still studying the project. The sketch submitted was disapproved. It was reported that Mr. Nagle staked off the plaza, which the Commission inspected later in the afternoon.

17. ARLINGTON ROADWAY CONNECTIONS: Mr. Clarke presented a map showing changes in the existing roadways and proposed new roads adjacent or in the immediate vicinity of the Arlington National Cemetery, prepared in the office of the Bureau of Public Roads. This plan called for the elimination of the so-called "Mary Baker" road and also showed ways of getting around both the north and south sides of Arlington, including a connection with a proposed parkway to Great Falls. Mr. Clarke reported that he intended to go over the plan with Mr. Nolen and Mr. Hubbard so as to be in agreement on all details with the representatives of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and then bring it before the Commission. Mr. Moore believed that once the "Mary Baker" road is out of the way it will be possible to obtain a study for the enlargement of Arlington.

This plan was considered at the joint meeting with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Mr. Spelman of the Bureau of Public Roads appeared before the Commission and explained that the Government proposes to build all roads on Government property, including the road along the south side of Arlington National Cemetery, and the roadway extending from the north side of Columbia Island Plaza northwestward to Station Zero (near the

Arlington National Cemetery) and from there the State of Virginia would build the roadway along the north side of Arlington National Cemetery to Station 107. This section is known as the "Lee Highway connection." Mr. Spelman pointed out that the "Mary Baker" road is to be eliminated and in its place a roadway is proposed adjacent and west of the railroad along the Boundary Channel passing in a new structure under the drive from Columbia Island to Arlington. Mr. Spelman said that if this plan was generally agreed to by both the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the committee (consisting of Mr. Spelman, Mr. Clarke and Professor Hubbard) would work out the details later in the day and submit a report which is to be brought to the attention of the Public Works office for the purpose of securing an allotment of $1,00?,000 needed to carry out the scheme.

The committee made a report and a copy was sent confidentially to the Commission of Fine Arts.

18. JAMES CREEK CANAL: The Commission considered the subject of the improvement of the James Creek Canal area, which about 10 years ago was turned over to the Joint Committee on the Library for use of the Botanic Garden but has not been developed since that time. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission proposes to use part of the area in connection with playgrounds in the locality. It was decided that Mr. A. B. Cammerer, Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, should get authority to clean up the area now and make further effort to acquire the James Creek Canal area as part of the District of Columbia parks.

19. WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENT BUILDINGS: Mr. Frederic A. Delano, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, said he desired informa-

tion on the question of the new War and Navy Department Buildings, which he understood had been suggested by the Commission of Fine Arts for locations near the White House.

Mr. Moore said recently President Roosevelt had requested Mr. Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, and himself to have a conference on the subject of new public buildings, which was held early in December 1933. At this conference Mr. Moore said the Secretary of the Interior expressed his desire for an Interior Department Building and also expressed the need of additional buildings to house Government offices. It was pointed out that the functions of the Public Buildings Commission were by Executive Order of August 1933, turned over to the Secretary of the Interior and that the present situation is such that it becomes necessary for the Departments to rent buildings to meet office space needs.

Mr. Moore said it is very important at this time that the buildings be erected along Pennsylvania Avenue near the White House so as to prevent that area from going into slum conditions; also that the Treasury Annex on the east side of Lafayette Square should be extended north to H Street and on the west side of Lafayette Square a new State Department building should be built; also that the old State, War and Navy Department Building should be remodeled for the office of the President of the United States since his small office building at the west end of the White House is becoming entirely too over-crowded. Mr. Moore said that the War and Navy Department Buildings could be built on the north and south side of Pennsylvania Avenue at 17th Street, taking in one or more squares for each of the buildings and that the Department of the Interior should take in the two squares between 18th and 19th Streets northward from the existing Interior Department Building at

18th and F Streets, whereby the Interior Department Building would have a nice frontage on Pennsylvania Avenue. Mr. Moore said that Mr. Ickes is considering this location. Also he said that Captain Allen, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks of the Navy Department, had called on him at the office of the Commission of Fine Arts and expressed his interest in the Navy Department Building on the Pennsylvania Avenue site.

The Secretary presented sketches that have been prepared by Captain Allen showing the treatment of the War and Navy Department buildings at the Pennsylvania Avenue site from 17th Street west to 20th Street, taking in the adjacent squares on both the north and south sides of the Avenue.

The matter was thoroughly considered. Mr. J. C. Nichols voiced objection to the Pennsylvania Avenue site since assessment figures show it would take at least $20,000,000 to buy the existing buildings and grounds along Pennsylvania Avenue west of 17th Street. Mr. Delano said that he was not in favor of the Pennsylvania Avenue site since the District Commissioners protested against depriving the District Government of taxable property and in this case a large amount would be sacrificed to clear the squares for Departmental buildings. Mr. Delano called attention to the sites recommended for the War and Navy Department Buildings along New York Avenue, according to the plans that have been made by Harvey Wiley Corbett. It was stated that the buildings at these locations could be built almost entirely on Government owned land. Captain Allen, who was present, said he felt the New York Avenue site had some advantages over the Pennsylvania Avenue site since it seemed to allow for greater expansion at less cost at some future time. On the other hand, he said the Navy Department would favor that location which would assure the construction of a Navy Department Building at the earliest time.

Mr. Moore, speaking for the Commission of Fine Arts, said that the Pennsylvania Avenue site gives a major location for the War and Navy Department buildings; that Pennsylvania Avenue is the great avenue of the Nation and should be properly developed west of 17th Street to the Rock Creek Parkway. To put the War and Navy Department buildings on New York Avenue would bring about such a situation that going from Pennsylvania Avenue southward to reach the buildings would be like going through a back yard. Also Mr. Moore pointed out that the triangle south of New York Avenue and west of 17th Street is being taken up almost entirely by semi-public buildings; that only in the past year the American Pharmaceutical Association building has been completed and that organization needs ground for expansion· also that the Academy of Sciences needs space for expansion and that the Pan American Annex is about to be built at 19th Street and Constitution Avenue. Mr. Moore felt that it was unnecessary to have the War and Navy Department Buildings built on such a large area as the plans for the New York Avenue site indicate. He pointed out that figures show the War Department at the present time has in its personnel not more than 4,500 and the Navy Department not more than 4,000. Thus each of these departments could be housed in a building like the Internal Revenue building (at Constitution Avenue and 12th Street), which houses 4,500 employees.

20. ROOSEVELT ISLAND: The following copy of a letter from Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted regarding the development of Roosevelt Island received consideration:

At Washington, D. C.,
January 17, 1934.

Mr. A. B. Cammerer, Director,
Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Roosevelt Island.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The studies of Roosevelt Island which Mr. Pope and I have undertaken indicate the very urgent importance that your office, as custodian of the island, should promptly undertake certain preliminary work thereon, for which, under the law, the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts and of the Park and Planning Commission should be secured, and it is very desirable that this approval should be obtained at the meetings of those Commissions which occur this week. In hopes that such approval may be secured, I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter simultaneously to both Commissions.

The major reasons for urgency are: First, that a large part of the island is overspread by a highly inflammable tangle of dry weeds, brambles, and fallen deadwood resulting from years of neglect and from occasional brush fires in the past, and that until this condition is remedied there is very grave danger that the irresponsible people who keep visiting the island, as clearly shown by the numerous fresh traces they have left, may start a fire calamitously destructive to the woods upon which so much of the present charm of the island depends, and which it is of the utmost importance to conserve as part of any well-considered general plan for the ultimate development of the island.

Second, that if approval, from the point of view of design, can be promptly reached in regard to the needful preliminary operations of cleaning, weeding and protection from fire, applicable to any general plan conceivably appropriate for the island, it should be possible to get them carried out at once under proper supervision, either by C. C. C. labor or by other labor now available in connection with emergency operations.

Although reduction of the great present fire hazard is the most pressing motive for prompt action, it is also the case that, until some of these encumbering masses of deadwood and weeds have been removed, wise conclusions in regard to many features of a comprehensive general plan for the ultimate development of the island can hardly be reached with confidence either by Mr. Pope and myself as designers or by those upon whom final responsibility for approval of plans must rest.

The procedure for which Mr. Pope and I now recommend approval, as part of a comprehensive plan for the treatment of the island, is that except within certain reserved areas where the existing minor vegetation has special value (including the notable areas of periwinkle and ivy) which areas I am prepared to designate personally on the ground and which should be left undisturbed for further study,

and subject to the restriction that every precaution shall be taken in this preliminary operation to protect all the living trees of any considerable size, and even small trees of good promise, there should be a complete removal of the fallen deadwood, of standing dead trees, and of the dead and living weedy growth consisting mainly of brambles, grasses, Japanese honeysuckle, poison ivy and sumac; the work to be done under more detailed instructions which I am prepared to give to the foremen as the work proceeds.

If the above recommended work can proceed promptly, Mr. Pope and I hope to be able to submit a comprehensive plan for the further development of the island at a relatively early date.

Respectfully submitted;
(Signed) Frederick Law Olmsted.

It was agreed that it would be a good thing if the Civil Works Division would clean up Roosevelt Island under proper supervision and the Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations was requested to do this.

21. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE EXTENSION: At the joint meeting of the Board of Architectural Consultants, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts, held in the Treasury Department on Thursday afternoon the Secretary called attention to the Public Printer's project to remodel the existing old Government Printing Office and provide for general improvements (as set forth on pages 74 and 75 of the Public Printer's report for 1933) as follows:

New Building to be Located at North Capitol and H Streets, N. W., to Replace Antiquated Buildings, $3,500,000.

Enclosed extracts from my annual reports of 1930 and 1931 state in detail the need for a new building. Briefly, the requirement is for a modern fireproof building to replace a group of old buildings, dating back to 1856, which have highly inflammable wooden interiors and inadequate capacity. Structural conditions are such that tie-rods have had to be installed to support walls and intermediate posts placed to strengthen floors, the loading of which have been greatly restricted as the result of an inspection made by Army engineers many years ago.

These old buildings house important workrooms and provide storage space for approximately 20,000,000 Government publications; also large stocks of paper and other materials used in the daily production of the Government Printing Office.

From preliminary plans, the Supervising Architect's Office reported, in February 1931, that $4,000,000 would be adequate for this project. With reduced construction costs, $3,500,000 is now considered adequate.

A bill was introduced into the Seventy-first Congress by Hon. Frank Murphy, of Ohio, chairman of the subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations, for this amount. Members of the committee and officials of the Treasury Department expressed their approval of the project, but due to the approaching adjournment of Congress it failed of further consideration.

I earnestly urge the approval of this project, as it is not only needed to provide proper protection for millions of dollars' worth of Government publications, materials, and supplies but also for important workrooms.

The Secretary stated that the Public Printer had been requested to submit his plans but the Chief Clerk's office had stated that only floor plans have thus far been prepared. The Government Printer wants to take in the square east of the existing building, namely, the square at North Capitol and H Streets extending eastward to the railroad, which would give the Public Printer direct railroad connection. Mr. Delano, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission said his Commission would be very glad to make a study of the project. This information was conveyed to the Public Printer, who replied by letter of January 24, 1934, to the Secretary. (Exhibit K and K-1)

22. LOCATION FOR CHRISTMAS TREE: The Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations submitted a letter with design, proposing to plant two spruce trees in Lafayette Park opposite the White House and symmetrical with the Andrew Jackson Statue. The matter was brought to the attention of Major Clarke, who advised against planting blue spruce trees and also raised the

question whether this is a proper location for the Christmas tree and whether or not there should be only one tree for the Christmas celebration. Decision was held in abeyance pending further study of the project.

23. PENTHOUSE, TREASURY DEPARTMENT BUILDING: Mr. Louis Simon, Chief of the Architectural Division, Office of the Supervising Architect, Treasury Department, submitted sketches for a proposed penthouse on the Treasury Department Building. The sketches were brought to the particular attention of Mr. Howells, who after consideration disapproved the scheme. Mr. Howells pointed out that the penthouse on the Treasury Department building, which is a low building, would be unsightly. Mr. Howells said the Treasury Department would find it just as economical to place the machinery for the new elevators in the basement of the building. The sketches were, therefore, disapproved and a report was sent to Assistant Secretary Robert accordingly. (Exhibit L)

24. THOMAS JEFFERSON STATUE AND RELOCATION OF THE ANDREW JACKSON STATUE: President Roosevelt submitted a memorandum on the subject of placing a statue of Thomas Jefferson at the east end of the Triangle on Pennsylvania Avenue on the grounds heretofore selected for the Apex Building; also on the question of relocating the statue of Jackson, as follows:

January 18, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT

FOR HON. CHARLES MOORE, CHAIRMAN, FINE ARTS COMMISSION.

I wish much that the Commission could informally study two suggestions which have been made.

1. The erection of a Memorial to Thomas Jefferson in the square or triangle east of the new Archives Building.

2. The erection of a more adequate Memorial to Andrew Jackson in Jackson Square than the present rather strange rearing horse.

(Signed) F. D. R.

The Commission very carefully considered the memorandum of the President. The Commission felt it would be desirable to have a statue of Thomas Jefferson on public grounds in Washington. As for locating it at the Apex building site it was noted at the joint meeting of the Board of Architectural Consultants, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts, that it had been agreed the Apex Building should be built at the east end of the Triangle as it is needed to complete the Triangle and also to house Government establishments. It was thought, however, that there would be room at the eastern extremity of the Triangle for a statue of Thomas Jefferson or it could be placed on the cross axis of the Mall at Seventh Street, which would give the statue a major location in the plan of Washington.

As for the Andrew Jackson Statue, Mr. Moore said that this subject had been before the Commission on several occasions and that it had been generally agreed that it would be inadvisable to move the statue. The reasons set forth by the Commission and the recommendations made both as to the Thomas Jefferson Statue and the Andrew Jackson Statue were embodied in a report which was sent to the President of the United States. (Exhibit H)

25. PARKING NEAR THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL: The Commissions made protest against the great amount of parking that is done in the parks of Washington and especially against the parking near the Lincoln Memorial. The Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations said an order had been issued prohibiting parking of automobiles in back of the Lincoln Memorial.

26. PROMOTING INTEREST IN COLOR: At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on January 18, Mr. Savage reported on a project that had been presented to the Commission by Mrs. Dorothy Romaine, 8 Barrow Street, New York City, to interest the people of the country in the proper use of color.

This is a part of the Public Works of Art project. Mrs. Romaine had been referred to this Commission by Mr. Robert Bruce. Mr. Savage reported favorably in regard to the matter and his report was accepted and approved by the Commission. Mrs. Romaine was informed accordingly. (Exhibit M; see also M-1)

27. TABLETS, ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: Under date of January 9, 1934, a letter was received from Mr. William N. Morell, Chairman of the National Pilgrimage Committee of the American Legion, protesting against the removal of the tablets containing the poem, "The Bivouac of the Dead" from Arlington National Cemetery. (Exhibit N)

Mr. Moore reported that he had had a conference with Mr. Morell and had informed him that the tablets were removed in connection with the restoration of the Arlington Mansion and grounds but that the poem could find an appropriate place in the Arlington Amphitheatre. Mr. Moore brought to the attention of the Commission a letter, dated January 18, received from Mr. Morell, expressing concurrence in this matter, as follows:

January 18, 1934.

Mr. Charles Moore,
Chairman, The Commission of Fine Arts,
Navy Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

Reference is made to our very pleasant conference of yesterday morning relative to the restoration of the poem by Colonel Theodore O'Hara "The Bivouac of the Dead" to Arlington National Cemetery.

In accordance with the conclusion reached in our conference, I am advising our National Headquarters that the Fine Arts Commission

will undertake to place a suitable reproduction of the poem "The Bivouac of the Dead" in a suitable and conspicuous location in Arlington National Cemetery.

I hope that the suggestion which was advanced at the conference that the reproduction be made in the amphitheater will be carried out.

Thanking you for your courtesy and hoping to have the pleasure of cooperating with you in this matter and such other matters as may touch on our common interest, I am

Very sincerely,
(Signed) William N. Morell,
Chairman, National Pilgrimage Committee.

The Commission visited the Arlington Amphitheater later in the afternoon and considered a location for the tablet in the room in which there are many of the memorials from foreign nations given at the time of the burial of the Unknown Soldier.

28. GENERAL ARTEMAS WARD STATUE: Mr. Moore reported that Mr. Henry Shattuck, Treasurer of Harvard College had advised that the President and Fellows had approved the allotment of $4,500 for purchasing the Glover land for creating a circle at Massachusetts and Nebraska Avenues for the General Artemas Ward Statue and that favorable letters had been received from the District Commissioners, expressing their readiness to cooperate in the question of paving the circle. Mr. Moore said that the question of having the sculptor, Mr. Crunelle, execute a contract so as to complete the statue is now pending. The Commission were glad to hear that this project is going forward. (Exhibit O)

The Commission adjourned on Friday evening at 6:00 p. m.

C O P Y

January 22, 1934.

Dear General DeWitt:

Your letter of January 10th, with its memorandum suggesting an alteration in the chair at the Arlington Memorial Amphitheater, received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 18, 1934. Also the Commission visited the Amphitheater and inspected the chair.

The Commission recommend that the present short step be removed, replacing it with a new slab that will come out to the edge of the lower slab, as shown on the accompanying sketch. Or a small slab of marble could be doweled to the existing short slab, bringing it out to the edge of the dais, as shown on the accompanying sketch. Of course it is understood that the same kind of stone will be used as is there at present.

The suggestion is made that bronze sockets might also be placed at the sides of the chair for vertical supports for the arms. These might take the form of fasces in bronze as indicated on the attached sketch.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major General J. L. DeWitt,
The Quartermaster General,
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A

C O P Y

January 22, 1934.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 18, 1934, considered with interest, in consultation with Mr. A. D. Taylor, Landscape Architect, and Mr. Delos Smith, Consulting Architect, the plans prepared for the development of the Agricultural Experimental Farm, at Beltsville, Maryland, of the Department of Agriculture.

The Commission approved in general the plan presented by Mr. Taylor for the development of the Experimental Farm. It has been found possible thus far to plan for only a part of the area, and there are still many matters in detail still to be decided.

Also, the Commission approved a design presented by Mr. Delos Smith for a large Laboratory Building, in the Georgian style of architecture, typical of colonial buildings in this part of the United States, and which is to set the standard for the new buildings. The Commission heartily concurred in the suggestion that the old Mansion House be restored.

The Commission deem it very important that the project have the continued advice of the landscape architect and the consulting architect, until such time as the Experimental Farm is properly established at Beltsville. It is such a large project that it should have professional advice regularly as the work progresses.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

The Honorable
The Secretary of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B

C O P Y

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Assistant Secretary

Washington

January 25, 1934.

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

Dr. Tugwell asked me to thank you for your letter of January 22nd which the Secretary has referred to him.

He, too, feels that the continued advice of the landscape architect and the consulting architect in the development of Beltsville is desirable.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) G. E. Falke,

Assistant to the Assistant Secretary

EXHIBIT B-1

C O P Y

January 25, 1934.

Dear Dr. Rowe:

Dr. Cret came to the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on the 18th and we discussed very fully with him both the location and the design of the Pan American Annex. Although he demurred at first he finally heartily acquiesced in the suggestion of the Commission that the whole building, both the Constitution Avenue front and the Virginia Avenue front, be planned now so that we might see what the future development would be. This will involve actual relations with both Constitution Avenue and the triangle opposite the one you are at present occupying across Virginia Avenue.

At any rate we shall be able to visualize how the completed building will look and how it will be located. Anything less than this the Commission consider inadequate and likely to lead to serious objections, owing to the unfinished rear fronting on a thoroughfare of great importance. Probably you would have to bear the brunt of these criticisms without being able to answer them although the Commission of Fine Arts were thinking more of themselves than of you in making this requirement.

Cordially yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General,
Pan American Union,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

C O P Y

January 31, 1934.

Dear Mr. Jennewein:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 18 and 19, 1934, considered the photographs of sketches of proposed sculpture for the Department of Justice Building, which you submitted with your letter of January 15. The photographs were brought to the particular attention of Mr. Lee Lawrie and upon his recommendation the Commission approved the models.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. C. P. Jennewein,

538 Van Nest Avenue,

Bronx, New York.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

January 23, 1934.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 19, 1934, approved the drawings which were submitted by your office for bridges to be built in the Tennessee section of Newfound Gap Highway in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, as follows:

G. S. 1018, Site No. 2, Single Elliptical Arch.
G. S. 1065, Site No. 3, Double Masonry Arch.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Parks, Buildings and Reservations,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E

C O P Y

January 31, 1934.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts approve the designs of buildings for the Shenandoah National Park, as shown in the accompanying file from your office. These designs had the particular attention of Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, landscape architect member of the Commission of Fine Arts.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Parks, Buildings
and Reservations,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

C O P Y

January 25, 1934.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of January 16, together with which you submitted plans for a field house for the Bloomington Playground in McMillan Park, received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 18, 1934.

McMillan Park having been so named, citizens of Michigan gave to the Government one of the most beautiful fountains in this country, designed by Herbert Adams, Sculptor, and Charles A. Platt, Architect. Congress made an appropriation for the steps and walks. The McMillan family had a landscape plan for the park made by Frederick Law Olmsted, landscape architect.

While there can be no objection to the use of a portion of this park as a playground, there is serious objection to the encroachment of such playground on the mound area surrounding the fountain, which area has been treated for the benefit of those persons who continually come to enjoy the fountain. The intrusion of a District storehouse was unfortunate. The further intrusion of a field house, if allowed at all, should be subject to restrictions as to location, size and design. The erection of the contemplated chicken-wire fences, or any fences, within the park should not be tolerated.

EXHIBIT G

Such mutilations of a District of Columbia park, under whatever guise proposed, should never have been even suggested.

The Commission of Fine Arts appreciate your action in bringing this matter to their attention.

The Commission recommend that a new design for the field house be made by the Municipal Architect. The Commission desire also to consider with him the question of location before the design is made.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Major J. D. Arthur, Jr.,

District Engineer,

Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

January 23, 1934.

Dear Mr. President:

Answering the queries in your memorandum:

First. After your expression in our talk in regard to the Apex Building, the subject was taken up at a special meeting called for that particular purpose in New York City, at which John Russell Pope, Louis Ayres, designer of the Commerce Building, Mr. Aldrich, representing Delano and Aldrich (all members of the Board of Architectural Consultants) joined the members of the Commission of Fine Arts in discussing both the location and design of the Apex Building.

It was decided unanimously that the building as planned and located is a necessary completion of the Triangle buildings along Pennsylvania Avenue.

In part the Apex Building acts as a frame for the Archives Building, which was designed and located so as to have the Apex Building complete the great composition and bring it into harmonious relations with Pennsylvania Avenue, the Civic Center and the Capitol. The Apex Building itself, while not of large dimensions, nevertheless gives office room sufficient to justify its erection.

The Apex Building was further discussed at a joint meeting of the Board of Architectural Consultants (with full membership), the

EXHIBIT H

National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts. It was also the unanimous opinion of the three bodies that the Apex Building is logical and necessary from both an architectural and a utilitarian standpoint, and that it provides a necessary ending of the great Triangle group.

Second. The Commission of Fine Arts have advocated the erection in Washington of a memorial to Thomas Jefferson and would welcome legislation to that effect. As to the exact location of that memorial there may reasonably be differences of opinion.

Perhaps, it might find a place on the Pennsylvania Avenue front of the new Archives Building. On the completion of that building, with its exhibition hall for the chief documents of the nation, it is presumed that the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, will be transferred to the Archives Building, where properly they belong. If this is done it would be appropriate to locate the memorial to Thomas Jefferson in front of the building that contains the great archive that he wrote.

Or if the location on Pennsylvania Avenue is not altogether satisfactory, a place might be found on the cross-axis of the Mall opposite the Archives Building and within the Mall.

A third alternative would be to use the small triangle on the east front of the Apex Building, a place which will call for some adornment in the future.

The decision as to the location might properly be the subject of study after Congress has indicated a disposition to create such a memorial and has given an indication of the importance Congress would attach to it.

Third. Relocation of the Statue of Andrew Jackson. This is a subject which recurs from time to time. Augustus Saint-Gaudens said he would be sorry to see it moved from its present location, because it has grown into its place. It was the first equestrian statue designed and erected in the United States. At the time of its erection it was regarded as a great achievement in American art, comparable with, and even surpassing, any equestrian statue in the world! Of course, we have changed our ideas since that time, but the fact remains that the Jackson Statue has a distinct historical importance. Moreover, as Saint-Gaudens says in his Reminiscences, it adds to the gayety of nations.

There is a great deal of history connected with the Jackson, and with the inscription, "Our Federal Union, it must be preserved"--originally a part of the design of the statue but never placed thereon until 1909, when Andrew D. White called attention to the omission. General Benjamin F. Butler, you may recall, had that sentiment inscribed on the statue at New Orleans when he occupied the city.

Probably it would be difficult to find another place for the statue which would be satisfactory to the people of the United States.

Certainly the transposition of the Jackson Statue and the Washington Statue by the same Clark Mills (which is now in Washington Circle) would be unsatisfactory; because the Washington Statue probably is one of the worst in the United States. It lacks the element of naivete which the Jackson Statue possesses to an eminent degree.

For these reasons the Commission of Fine Arts have often advised against any removal of the Jackson Statue. The last previous suggestion was made when Charles A. Platt, whose taste in such matters had come to be very highly regarded, was a member of the Commission. Mr. Platt felt that both for historical reasons and because of the loving care with which it was designed, the statue should remain in its present position.

Whether it could be taken out of the axis might be another question.

These matters have been gone into at length in order to show you that the questions which you have raised have had very serious consideration.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

The President,
The White House.

C O P Y

NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK & PLANNING COMMISSION

Washington

January 20, 1934.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Plans for proposed extension of the Federal Warehouse.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Fine Arts Commission at the joint meeting on January 19 considered the plans for the proposed extension of the Federal Warehouse. After much discussion, which included the location of Virginia Avenue and Maryland Avenue as laid out on the original plan of the city, city zoning regulations, and other matters, the following resolution was passed:

"MOTION unanimously carried at joint meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and Fine Arts Commission, held on January 19, 1934, as to the proposed extension of the Federal Warehouse:

Moved and seconded that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts do not approve of the plans as submitted, but that they are ready to approve plans which are in accordance with the following requirements:

(1) That the addition to the building be substantially symmetrical with the existing building as to plan and elevation about the axis of 8th Street;

(2) That the addition to the building shall not extend beyond the line of Virginia Avenue or of any other street as originally laid out and as shown on the plan for the City of Washington;

(3) That the pent-houses shall be no higher and no larger than those of the existing building and shall be set back from the facade of the building by a distance equal to their height."

Should you desire to have any of the reasons which prompted the Commission in passing this resolution, we shall be very glad to write you more fully.

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) Frederic A. Delano, Chairman.
(Signed) Arno B. Cammerer,
Executive Officer.

EXHIBIT I

C O P Y

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington, D. C.

January 22, 1934.

Dear Mr. Robert:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 19, 1934, considered the sketches you submitted for alterations and additions to the General Accounting Office, the former Pension Office building. The Commission feel that they should congratulate the architect, Mr. deSibour, on a satisfactory solution of the problem of transforming into a building of appropriate monumental character a building which during its entire lifetime has been ridiculed both by the public and by the architectural profession.

At a joint meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Commission of Fine Arts, the opinion was expressed that the wings as planned would encroach on F Street as about to be widened. A study will be made and the matter will be taken up with the architect. This will probably result in a restudy of the south front.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. L. W. Robert,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

C O P Y

January 29, 1934.

My dear Mr. Carter:

I have received your letter of January 24, concerning the replacement of the old building of the Government Printing Office with a modern fireproof structure.

I think it will interest you to hear that I brought the question of your new buildings of the Government Printing Office to the attention of the members of the Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Board of Architectural Consultants of the Treasury Department at a joint meeting held in the office of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Robert on January 18, 1934. They expressed genuine interest in your project. Mr. Frederic A. Delano, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, said his Commission will be pleased to make a study of your suggestion that the square at North Capitol and H Streets east to the railroad be made available to the Government Printing Office. As to your suggestion that the block immediately to the south of your main building at North Capitol Street and Massachusetts Avenue be acquired for a park to be used by the employees of the Government Printing Office and the Washington City Post Office, this I think is very desirable. At the same time by acquiring the square and removing the old dilapidated buildingsit would do away with one of the eyesores of the city. It has also suggested itself that this square at some distant time in the future could be used for an Administration Building of the Government Printing Office. A white granite building like the Washington City Post Office facing the Capitol would be the form it should take.

I am sending a copy of your letter and a copy of this reply to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission for their consideration of your building project.

The Commission of Fine Arts will be pleased to be of service to you at any time.

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary.

Hon. George H. Carter,
Public Printer,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT K

OFFICE OF
THE PUBLIC PRINTER

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

GHC
ECM:MMB

RECEIVED
JAN 25 1934
NOTED

January 24, 1934.

My Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 12, relative to recommendation made in my latest Annual Report for the replacement of the old buildings of the Government Printing Office with a modern fireproof structure.

Your letter was referred to Mr. Alfred E. Hanson, Mechanical Superintendent of this Office, who has informed you we have only floor plans of the proposed building. It is our opinion that the exterior of the new structure, at least on the North Capitol Street side, ought to conform to the main building, with which it should be united.

Relative to a site for future expansion beyond the present location of the old building, our preference would be the square east of the present buildings, the block bounded by G, North Capitol, and H Streets, because of the accessibility to railroad tracks which could be extended into the building. At present we have no direct railroad connection.

As stated by Mr. Hanson during his recent conversation with you, this Office also favors as a secondary project your suggestion that the block between the Government Printing Office and Massachusetts Avenue be made into a park, which could be used by employees of this Office and the City Post Office.

Very truly yours,

George H. Carter
Public Printer.

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary, The Commission of Fine Arts,
Navy Department Building,
Washington, D.C.

C O P Y

January 20, 1934.

Dear Mr. Robert:

Mr. Louis Simon submitted in your behalf to the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 19, 1934, a sketch for a penthouse on the Treasury Department Building at 15th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The Commission gave this matter very careful consideration and are constrained to disapprove it. In this the National Capital Park and Planning Commission concur. In view of the fact that the Treasury Building is but four stories in height, the penthouse would be an eyesore in that part of the city.

The Commission recommend that the machinery for the elevator be placed in the basement. This can be done with but small or no additional cost. Indeed there would probably be a saving.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. L. W. Robert,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT L

C O P Y

January 23, 1934.

My dear Mrs. Romaine:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, January 18, 1934, Mr. Eugene Savage, the painter member of the Commission, reported that he had visited your studio with the following result:

> "I am impressed with a very unselfish enthusiasm on the part of Mrs. Romaine for a worthy cause that could be a real contribution to beauty in America.
>
> "Her success would lead America to be soudly and beautifully color conscious instead of the contrary.
>
> "Ever since my days in Italy, I have felt that the ancients were gloriously colorful in all their surroundings wherein we simply default.
>
> "I would welcome anything that would contribute to the success of her project which has such tangible objectives in commerce, industry and homes."

Mr. Savage's report was accepted and approved.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mrs. Dorothy Romaine,
8 Barrow Street,
New York, N. Y.

EXHIBIT M

ALLIED
DECORATORS
101 SEVENTH AVENUE SO., NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CHELSEA 2-9797

RECEIVED
JAN 26 1934

5 Sheridan Sq

Jan 25 1934

Dear Mr Moore and
Dear Mr Cammerer.

I feel so grateful to you and your group for your fine letter. I shall do every thing in my power to show you how much I appreciate your interest and sympathy.

It will make work easier. We have had our second, and most interesting and satisfactory interview with Lord and Taylor - We found Miss Shaver, interesting and interested and fully in sympathy and aware of the possibility of an American Renaissance beginning, in an Established commercial channel and yet not being "commercial"

in its attitude to Art and artists
I must now work out a plan for
her & actual details with the Artist protected
I will keep you informed J. progress.
Again thank you all very much -
I do indeed appreciate your interest.

Sincerely
Dorothy Romaine

ED
E ARTS

AL PILGRIMAGE
OMMITTEE

ORELL, CHAIRMAN
ONTGOMERY LANE
DA, MARYLAND

STOVALL,
CT OF COLUMBIA

BAIRD,
ISLAND

NORRIS,
IA

EL SPEAR,
YLVANIA

THE AMERICAN LEGION

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

RECEIVED
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
JAN 10 1934
NOTED

January 9, 1934

IN REPLY REFER TO DATE AND No.

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary and Administrative Officer,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Constitution Avenue and 18th Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

Under date of November 11, 1933 a member of our organization communicated with the Secretary of War relative to the removal of the tablets from Arlington National Cemetery bearing portions of Theodore O'Hara's poem "The Bivouac of the Dead".

Major General J. L. DeWitt, the Quartermaster General, under date of November 20, 1933, in response to this inquiry stated:

> "The tablets in question were removed at the instance of the Commission of Fine Arts as in the opinion of that Commission they were not in harmony with the character of the cemeteries and detracted from rather than enhance their beauty and appearance."

The American Legion in response to sentiments expressed by its members has been making inquiry in order to determine the facts and reasons upon which the removal was based in an effort to obtain the restoration of these tablets to Arlington National Cemetery.

It is noted from the statements in the Press yesterday that other organizations and individuals have taken this matter up with Members of Congress from Kentucky. This interest was prompted by certain correspondence which the American Legion has had in an effort to secure detailed information from Kentucky relative to the author of this famous poem.

EXHIBIT N

C O P Y

January 23, 1934.

Dear Mr. Shattuck:

Your letters of January 9 and 15, stating that the President and Fellows of Harvard College have allotted $4,500 for purchasing the Glover land for the circle for the General Artemas Ward Statue and that you have written to the District Commissioners on the subject of paving the circle, have been received.

Cooperation on the part of the authorities in Washington in this project is now assured. The matter was discussed at the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on Friday. When you reach a satisfactory agreement with Mr. Crunelle, the work of executing the statue can be brought to completion without further delay.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Henry L. Shattuck, Treasurer,
Harvard College,
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EXHIBIT O